

Eurocopter's first EC145 multi-role helicopter for Malaysia is delivered to Sabah Air Aviation for medical airlift duties

Kuala Lumpur, 30 November 2010

Eurocopter Malaysia is pleased to present the first EC145 helicopter, the first of its type in Malaysia to Sabah Air Aviation which will be used for medical airlift missions in the Sabah region, north of Borneo.

Sabah Air Aviation selected the EC145 after an extensive evaluation, choosing the rotary-wing aircraft for its market leadership in the helicopter emergency medical services (HEMS) sector, benefitting from a large interior that accommodates two patients and paramedics.

“Helicopters have been playing a role in saving lives in many situations for decades now, and they are unbeatable for point-to-point speed,” said YB Pang Yuk Ming, the Chairman of Sabah Air Aviation. “When lives hang in balance, a helicopter air ambulance may be the difference between life and death. We are now looking forward to putting the EC145 into service.”

The milestone EC145 for Sabah Air Aviation is being kept busy after its delivery by Eurocopter Malaysia. It was immediately displayed and demonstrated its capabilities for the extrication and evacuation of accident trauma victims mission at the Ministry of Health's 2nd International Conference on Pre-Hospital Care and Emergency Communication System, organized by the Malaysian Society for Traumatology and Emergency Medicine and Emergency & Trauma Department of Hospital Kuala Lumpur. This conference's theme was chosen following public concern about paramedic response time for the treatment of accident victims in a fatal Malaysian bus crash last month, which renewed the government's efforts to define better ways of managing such disasters.

Pierre Nardelli, the President and CEO of Eurocopter Malaysia, underscored how helicopters play a key role in such situations elsewhere in the world, adding that Malaysia is now moving to embrace this concept.

“Eurocopter is the leading manufacturer of helicopters for emergency medical services, with our EC135 and EC145 being the aircraft of choice in these operations,” Nardelli explained. “The EC135 already is well established in Malaysia, and we are looking forward to the first Malaysian-registered EC145 entering service with Sabah Air Aviation.”

The mid-sized, twin-engine EC145 brings together excellent performance and versatility with a large cabin and highly economic operating costs. Its compact overall footprint allows the helicopter to be operated in confined landing zones, while the high-set main and tail rotors provide unparalleled safety and access during the loading/unloading of patients – even when rotors are turning.

In addition to the EC145's worldwide use by hospitals, medical service providers, oil and gas transportation companies and parapublic operators, it has been chosen as the U.S. Army's new Light Utility Helicopter.



The EC145 was also presented to the public and private sector in a separate event on the same day at Carcosa Seri Negara, as part of a demonstration tour organized by Eurocopter Malaysia.

True to its multi-role nature, the EC145 also is highly valued in the corporate sector, being the only helicopter in its category to combine a spacious cabin, smooth ride and excellent window visibility for unrivalled passenger comfort. Responding to the market's high-end requirements, Eurocopter teamed with legendary automobile manufacturer Mercedes-Benz to develop a special edition of the EC145 with a customized layout that unites style, class and comfort with practical use. The model was first unveiled in May at the EBACE business aviation convention in Geneva, with highly positive industry feedback.

About Eurocopter (Website: www.eurocopter.com)

Established in 1992, the Franco-German-Spanish Eurocopter Group is a Division of EADS, a world leader in aerospace, defence and related services. The Eurocopter Group employs approx. 15,600 people. In 2009, Eurocopter confirmed its position as the world's No. 1 helicopter manufacturer in the civil and parapublic market, with a turnover of 4.6 billion Euros, orders for 344 new helicopters, and a 52 percent market share in the civil and parapublic sectors. Overall, the Group's products account for 30 percent of the total world helicopter fleet. Its strong worldwide presence is ensured by its 18 subsidiaries on five continents, along with a dense network of distributors, certified agents and maintenance centres. More than 10,500 Eurocopter helicopters are currently in service with over 2,800 customers in more than 140 countries. Eurocopter offers the largest civil and military helicopter range in the world.

About Eurocopter Malaysia (Website: www.eurocopter.com.my)

Eurocopter Malaysia was incorporated in 2002, and is the only helicopter manufacturer with a comprehensive network of maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) service centers in Malaysia. With a workforce of 130 employees and presence in Subang, Miri and Kerteh, it provides a broad spectrum of services, ranging from scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, aircraft modification (retrofit, painting, interior refurbishment and customization), as well logistics support (spare parts, repairs and overhaul).

Eurocopter Malaysia backs its support offer with its inventory, 24-hour service, highly skilled workers and efficient logistic services. Eurocopter Malaysia has some 20 small and medium enterprises. The company also is an authorized training centre which provides a range of services for customers, from standard training to customized courses.

For more information, please contact:

Cécile VION-LANCTUIT

Tel : + 33 (0)4 42 85 60 51

Mob : + 33 (0)6 72 83 90 67

cecile.vion-lanctuit@eurocopter.com

Christina GOTZHEIN

Tel: + 49 (0) 89 60 00 64 88

Mob.: + 49 (0) 151 14 22 92 43

christina.gotzhein@eurocopter.com

Pascale FLEURY

Tel: + 33 (0)4 42 85 62 38

Mob:+ 33 (0)6 32 54 05 02

pascale.fleury@eurocopter.com

Melanie WOLF

Tel: + 49 (0) 906 71 57 39

Mob.: + 49 (0) 151 17 12 63 18

melanie.wolf@eurocopter.com

